MEMORANDUM

Reference by Anthony J. Russo Jr.to a study by the Rand Corporation of the Kennedy assassination.

On the night of Jan. 7, 1972, at Stanford University, Anthony J. Russo Jr. included in other remarks a statement to the effect that the Rand Corporation had made a study "of the Kennedy assassination"and that it should be made public.

Russo did not specify which Kennedy assassination was studied, nor when the alleged study was made. In considering the objective probability that the JFK assassination would be the likelier subject, it should be remembered that Rand, headquartered in Santa Monica, could have dealt with the RFK assassination instead.

The following day, a Rand spokesman, approached by a member of the news media and informed of Russo's statement, replied: "Rand won't have any comment on that."

Russo and Daniel Ellsberg, both former Rand employes and both recently indicted for conspiracy and leaking the Pentagon Papers to the press, were scheduled speakers at Stanford Memorial Chapel under the auspices of a campus anti-war coalition beginning a week of anti-war events called "Know Your Defense Department."

Russo's remarks on the alleged study are as follows, transcribed from a tape of the proceedings:

> "Think tanks are space age tools of the oppressor, and it's time that we learned a lot more about them. I would estimate that we probably know less than one per cent of what goes on there. For example, how many of you know that the Rand Corporation had done a study of the Kennedy assassination ? Probably not very many. Well, I'll tell you, not very many people at Rand knew about it either. It was called Project Star. I've never seen any documents concerning that. Probably only a dozen people at Rand knew about the entire study. I think it should be made public. I don't see why it would endanger anyone. I don't see, least of all, why it would endanger the national interest or the national security."

Russo spoke at the end of a confused evening, beginning with an assassination threat telephoned to the Stanford exchange operatoragainst Ellsberg, following which campus police and sheriff's deputies converged on the chapel. Ellsberg's speech was shorter than expected, and he complained that the assassination threat was a device to harrass his wife. Meanwhile Russo's marriage by a "Marxist" minister, the Rev. Richard Hardigree, to a Stanford graduate student, Katherine Barkley, was interrupted temporarily by the arrival of the swarm of officers. "We're surrounded by pigs," complained the bride.